

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ADDIS 12173 130632Z
ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CCO-00 L-03 SS-15 CPR-01 /034 W
----- 106105 /12
R 080738Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1942
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 12173

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ACOM ET
SUBJ: POUCH INSPECTION

REF: ADDIS ABABA 12077

1. EMB RECEIVED DEC 7 CURCULAR NOTE FROM CAMEROONIAN DEAN OF
DIP CORPS DTD DEC 3 WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE I HAVE THE HONOUR AND PLEASURE TO INFORM YOU
THAT I WAS THIS DAY 2ND DECEMBER 1976 , AT 4 P.M., SUM-
MONED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY BY H.E. THE FOREIGN MINISTER
OF THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OF
SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA.

THE LATTER DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF THE OPENING OF
INCOMING AND OUT-GOING DIPLOMATIC POUCHES IN ADDIS ABABA.

HE ORALLY INFORMED ME OF THE FOLLOWING, WHICH HE
REQUESTED THAT I SHOULD COMMUNICATE TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS:

1. THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THE
MEASURES IT TOOK TO OPEN AND INSPECT DIPLOMATIC POUCHES
ARE NO LONGER NECESSARY AND HAVE AS SUCH, BECOME VOID.

2. ACCORDINGLY, THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT DECIDED
WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY 2ND DECEMBER TO LIFT WHATEVER
MEASURES WERE AIMED OPIENING AND SEARCHING DIPLOMATIC
BAGS. AS A RESULT, NORMAL DIPLOMATIC MAILS COULD NOW
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ADDIS 12173 130632Z

RESUME.

3. ALSO THE MINISTER, ON BEHALF OF THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S SINCERE REGRETS FOR THE INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO THE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND DIPLOMATS AS WELL, AND DID ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE OBJECTIONS RAISED BY THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AGAINST THE MEASURES WERE JUSTIFIED.

4. HE EXPRESSED HIS GOVERNMENT'S THANKS FOR THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WHICH REIGNED AMONG THE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS.

ON MY PART, I THANKED HIS EXCELLENCY THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR THE EFFORTS HE PERSONALLY MADE WHICH HAVE NOW BORE FRUITS, AND THROUGH HIM, THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT, FOR ITS UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

I ALSO AVAILED MYSELF OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW THE MINISTER'S ATTENTION THE CURRENT SEARCH OF HOMES OR OFFICES OF DIPLOMATS, AND INDIAN DIPLOMAT AND AN OAU OFFICIAL, HAVE AMONG OTHERS, BEEN VICTIMS OF THIS SEARCH.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE FOREIGN MINISTER, POINTED OUT THAT EVERYTHING IS BEING DONE TO PUT AN END TO SUCH INCIDENTS, WHICH HAVE IN THE MAIN, BEEN ERRORS COMMITTED IN THE EXECUTION OF ORDERS. AND, WILL ALSO REQUEST THE PROTOCOL DEPARTMENT TO TENDER AN APOLOGY.

UNQUOTE

2. COMMENT: WITH ANY LUCK, THIS SHOULD END WHOLE UNFORTUNATE MATTER. FRENCH, BRITISH AND KENYANS FORMERLY ON "BLACKLIST" HAVE NOW RECEIVED POUCHES. FONMIN KIFLE EVEN APPARENTLY MADE LEFT-HANDED GESTURE TOWARD CORPS POSITION WITHOUT RETREATING TOO MUCH FROM EPMG'S ORIGINAL POSITION.
TIENKEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ADDIS12173
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760458-0772
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761260/aaaabzlv.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OC
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ADDIS ABABA 12077
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUN 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <29 JUN 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POUCH INSPECTION
TAGS: ACOM, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006